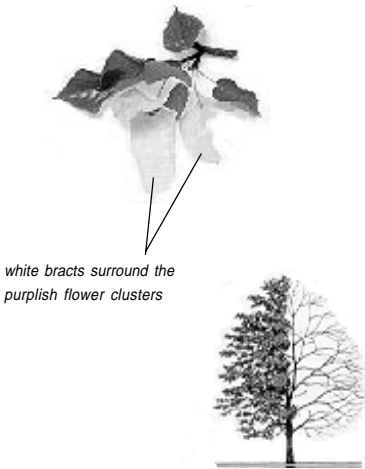


TreeLink News Bulletin

In the works



white bracts surround the
purplish flower clusters

Handkerchief Tree *Davidia involucrata*

The sharply toothed leaves are heart-shaped, up to 6 inches (15 cm) long and 4½ inches (12 cm) across, with a slender pointed tip. They are bright green above and densely hairy beneath. The bark is orange-brown, peeling vertically in small flakes. The flowers are rather inconspicuous rounded heads of purplish anthers, about ¾ inches (2 cm) across. The tree's most striking feature is large white bracts which surround the flower clusters, which look similar to "handkerchiefs" hanging from the limbs. The Handkerchief Tree can grow to be 65 feet (20 m) tall with a broadly conical form. It is native to moist mountain woods of China, and reportedly does well in the Pacific Northwest.

-Courtesy of Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

Dear friends and colleagues:

Just when I finally could pronounce and spell Pend Oreille, I find it time to leave. If only it were that simple - but it is true. I have a wonderful opportunity to go back home to Maine to be their state's Urban Forester. To be in the state I love, doing what I love, is truly a dream come true. This was not an easy decision as I have enjoyed the past three plus years helping a multitude of great communities of interested stakeholders who understand the short and long-term value and importance urban forestry plays here in Washington. It was an awesome opportunity to work with so many who were willing to understand that through partnership and cooperation our efforts will make a difference and a lot was accomplished. Washington has a tremendous opportunity in the upcoming year with the National Urban Forest Conference to become the leader nationwide - that I know can happen, and will. I look forward with great pride to a year from now to see what a showcase for the nation you all will offer everyone at this national event. I know many of you will be upset that I left without saying good-bye. I hate good-bye and prefer to think that our paths will cross again. However, I do want to take this time to thank everyone that helped make this "Mainer" feel welcome and in particular two: E.W. - thanks for always being there to help make lemonade when lemons seemed to be tossed my way and K.R. - KTS. See you all next year. -tish

1999 Urban Forestry Grants Available

Due to overwhelming response to the Urban Forestry Grants last year, Washington's Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Washington Community Forestry Council have decided to announce the availability of \$75,000 for community forestry projects. The maximum amount available for any project is \$7,500. All grant dollars must be matched, either in hard dollars or in-kind. Eligible grantees include, but are not limited to, municipalities, non-profits and educational institutions. Deadline for applications is March 15, 1999. The total grant amount may be subject to adjustment as budget items are finalized. The grant applications will be available January 19, and you can receive a copy by calling the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733. Applications can be downloaded from the web at www.wagov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/urban.htm.

Grant Writing Workshops

In the interest of well constructed and thought out grant applications, the Urban and Community Forestry Program will be hosting two regional grant writing workshops. The first will be held on February 2 in Moses Lake and the second will be in Tacoma on February 4. The half-day workshop will cover topics such as deciding on a project to apply for, describing projects in a compelling manner, working out budgets, and administering money once the grant is awarded. For more details and **to register**, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

NUCFAC Cost-Share Grants Program Request for Pre-Proposals

Approximately \$1 million in grant funds will be awarded through the 1999 Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program. Grants of all dollar amounts will be considered. Any non-federal organization operating within the United States or its territories may apply and collaboration with federal agencies is encouraged. All grant funds must be matched at least equally (dollar for dollar) with non-federal source funds. This match may include in-kind donations, volunteer assistance, and private and public (non-federal) monetary contributions. Pre-proposals must be received by January 5 and will be reviewed by February 19. The grantees will be given up to two years to complete their projects.

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of Agriculture. In this role, the council seeks to establish sustainable urban and community forests by encouraging communities of all sizes to manage and protect their natural resources for this and future generations. All questions regarding the grant program should be directed to Suzanne M. del Villar, Executive Assistant to the Council, at (209) 536-9201. A listing of the previously funded projects can be viewed at www.treelink.org/connect/orgs/nucfac/index.htm.

In the works (continued)

I like trees because they seem more
resigned to the way they have to live than
other things do.

-Willa Cather

TRIVIA: What percentage of canopy
coverage does a community need for a 14%
reduction in stormwater runoff?

(answer is upside down below)

Picks and Shovels

On the Horizon

**The purpose of the Washington Urban
and Community Forestry Program is
to assist communities and nonprofit
groups in building self-sustaining
urban forestry and tree care programs
with strong local support.**

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(At least 30%)

Seattle Tree Stewards Training for Spring

Applications are available for the Spring Tree Steward training class. It meets Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., February 27, March 6 and 13 on Beacon Hill. Tree Stewards help plant and care for trees. For more information, call Liz Ellis at (206) 684-5003 or on-line at www.ci.seattle.wa.us/seattle/td/treestew.htm.

King County Watershed Action Grant

Community groups, schools, clubs and others can get a Watershed Action Grant for up to \$5,000 for water resource enhancement or education projects. We all know how important large woody vegetation is for freshwater habitats. Applications are due by December 15. For more information, contact Valerie Dascil at (206) 296-1969 or email, valerie.dascil@metrokc.gov.

Arboricultural Consulting Academy

American Society of Consulting Arborists announced it will be hosting an intensive training academy, March 9-12, 1999, for consulting arborists and arborists interested in learning more about the profession of consulting. Courses to be offered will cover technical writing, report preparation, consulting ethics, expert witnessing, oral communications, and practice management. Graduation from the Arboricultural Consulting Academy is one of the requirements for becoming a Registered Member of the American Society of Consulting Arborists. Individuals interested in finding out more about this exciting opportunity can call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733 or call ASCA at (301) 947-0483.

Shedding Water: Metropolitan Area Planning Council video chronicles the Massachusetts' Department of Environmental Management and the USDA Forest Service sponsored urban watershed project along the Mystic River. The project focuses on the importance of urban forests for stormwater mitigation and, in turn, as pollution deterrents around Cambridge and Somerville, Massachusetts. This 28-minute video presentation is perfect for local access television and for environmental studies at the middle and high school levels. For more information, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

Landscaping With Native Plants in Kittitas County by Mary Anderson, WSU Master Gardener. This informative book was developed to aid homeowners by providing them with a list of plants that are native to the Upper Yakima River Basin, require minimal care and maintenance, are not water intensive, and are easily obtained from either private or public lands within Kittitas County. To obtain copies, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

December

7-9 Washington Turf and Landscape Show. Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, WA. Turf and landscape equipment trade show. GCSAA, PGA, CMAA, CLT and WCN/WCL credits available. Etonic's Superintendent Leadership Series, and more. For registration information, call Perry Triplet (253) 925-5638.

8 Tree Diagnostics Workshop. Gleneagles Golf Course, West Vancouver, British Columbia. For registration information, contact Pacific Northwest-ISA at (503) 585-4285.

12 Winter Solstice Potluck and Party for Tree Stewards. Camp Long, West Seattle. Good food, great company, and live sing along. Call Liz Ellis at (206) 684-5008 for more information on the Tree Steward Program.

January

20-22 Financing the Urban Forest National Conference. Arbor Day Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. Inaugural event designed to help communities figure out ways to overcome fiscal challenges of financing urban forest programs. For registration information, call the National Arbor Day Foundation at (402) 474-5655.